

**REMARKS**

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 12, 2006. Claims 1-13 and 15-40 are pending.

**Claim 1**

Claim 1 stands rejected under Section 103(a) as being allegedly being unpatentable over Kim in view of Takeda. This Section 103(a) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following two reasons.

*First*, claim 1 requires (a) a protrusion section that *connects the electrodes* on the opposing substrates, and (b) bent parts of the protrusion section are discontinuous. The cited art fails to disclose or suggest this.

Kim in Fig. 14 discloses protrusion sections 53 which are continuous – the opposite of what claim 1 requires. Recognizing this flaw in Kim, the Office Action cites to discontinuous protrusions 20C in Figs. 51-52 of Takeda and contends that it would have been obvious to have used such discontinuous protrusions in the device of Kim. The Examiner argues that the rationale for such a modification is "to provide a more stabilized and a fast response speed."

The above rationale used by the Office Action for the alleged modification to Kim is incorrect and makes no sense. Takeda states, with respect to Figs. 51-52, that stabilization and response speed can be improved when the protrusions 20C are located *in the slits 21* of the electrodes. In other words, in order to gain the improved response speed and stabilization, the protrusions 20C are provided *in the slits 21* of the electrodes according to Takeda. Accordingly, assuming *arguendo* that one would want to apply the teachings of Takeda to Kim, one would have located the discontinuous protrusions 20C in the slits 21 as taught by Takeda. However, even if the discontinuous protrusions 20C of Takeda were provided in the slits of Kim, the

invention of claim 1 still would *not* be met because these protrusion would not "connect the electrodes" as required by claim 1. Protrusion in slits cannot "connect electrodes" because such protrusions are provided in slits of at least one of the electrodes. Accordingly, the Section 103(a) rejection lacks merit and should be withdrawn for at least this first reason.

*Second*, claim 1 requires that "*the bent parts of the protrusion section are located in regions corresponding to solid portions of the electrodes.*" For example and without limitation, Figs. 1-2 of the instant application illustrate bent parts of the protrusions 23 located in regions corresponding to solid portions of the electrodes 12, 22, so that the protrusions connect electrodes 12 and 22. Again, as mentioned above, the cited art fails to disclose or suggest this.

Takeda states, with respect to Figs. 51-52, that stabilization and response speed can be improved when the protrusions 20C are located *in the slits 21* of the electrodes. In other words, in order to gain the improved response speed and stabilization, the protrusions 20C are provided *in the slits 21* of the electrodes according to Takeda – not in regions corresponding to solid portions of the electrodes as required by claim 1. Accordingly, assuming *arguendo* that one would want to apply the teachings of Takeda to Kim, one would have located the discontinuous protrusions 20C in the slits 21 as taught by Takeda – the opposite of what claim 1 requires. Thus, even if the discontinuous protrusions 20C of Takeda were provided in the slits of Kim, the invention of claim 1 still would *not* be met because these protrusion would not "connect the electrodes" and the bent parts of the protrusions would not be "located in regions corresponding to solid portions of the electrodes" as required by claim 1. Accordingly, the Section 103(a) rejection lacks merit and should be withdrawn for at least this second reason as well.

Claim 24

MIYACHI  
Appl. No. 10/849,378  
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Claim 24 requires (a) a protrusion section that *connects the electrodes* on the opposing substrates, (b) bent parts of the protrusion section are discontinuous, and that (c) bent parts of the protrusion section are located in regions corresponding to solid portions of the electrodes. The cited art fails to disclose or suggest these features of claim 24.

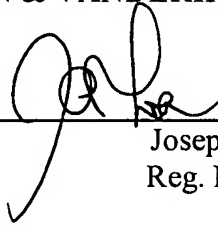
Conclusion

It is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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